

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Minutes November 24th, 2025.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by HRCVO President Dan Doyle.

Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of Officers and Directors: Present were President Dan Doyle, Immediate Past President Robert Randall, Secretary Roger Durity, Treasurer Mike Maliniak, Chaplain Kevin Bowser and Board of Directors (BOD) Kathy Goodall, Michael Bukowski. Vice President position is vacant. Excused BOD Scott Breuer.

Guest Speakers:

George Lutz, CEO, Honor & Remember Flag, spoke to HRCVO members about the organization's mission to honor America's fallen service members and their families. The group has presented nearly 6,000 personalized flags as tributes and was first recognized in Virginia before expanding to 29 states. There is currently a congressional bill (HR 1363) to establish the flag as a national symbol. Lutz also announced the free Gold Star Families Banquet on December 7th, 2025.

Casey Elliot, Admin Specialist, SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program. She briefed the HRCVO membership of their prevention grant program. The program is free to veterans, active-duty service members transitioning, and their family members who may have had suicidal ideations at any point or are currently actively showing those ideations. The program provides support to reduce stressors like case management, peer support, filing disability claims, job searching, or pursuing education.

President's Report and Opening Remarks:

- The Veterans Week activities were conducted successfully over the course of the entire week. Dan was extremely satisfied with the outcomes and asked what we can anticipate for next year's events.
- The "Greatest Parade," memorial service, and luncheon were successful events. Next year, in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary, another outstanding parade is anticipated.
- Be cautious of any spam emails that may have been sent from a weird email address. If you received it just deleted it.
- Thanks to the organizations that donated a basket. The raffle baskets event was successful, resulting in a donation of \$850 to Hope of Flame. This represents the largest amount raised from basket raffles to date.
- The list of Letters or Certificates of Appreciation has been mentioned. If there is anyone who should be recognized but is not on the list, please notify Dan.
- Scouting America Commemorative Patches of the "Greatest Parade" ever are available for purchase for \$5.
- Honor Flight Mission #10 scheduled for April 18th, 2026. Guardians and Veterans needed.
- Snowball Express scheduled for December 6th, 2025, at Norfolk Airport.

- Wreaths across America are scheduled for December 13th at various cemeteries.
- Members of the American Gold Star Mothers of Hampton Roads will conduct a wreath-laying ceremony at Hampton National Cemetery on December 13, 2025, to honor veterans. The cemetery contains more than 30,000 graves; however, every headstone has never been adorned with a wreath. The organization invites individuals to sponsor a wreath to commemorate all veterans and ensure each headstone is recognized. For every \$17 wreath purchased, the chapter receives \$5 to further support local veterans, service members, and Gold Star families.
- Dan provided some insights regarding the concept of passion, particularly in relation to one's professional endeavors. He articulated that individuals who have the opportunity to collaborate with passionate colleagues are indeed fortunate. Furthermore, he emphasized that if one has had the privilege of working alongside passionate individuals who have significantly influenced their life or transformed their approach to work, then they are truly blessed. Dan conveyed his profound gratitude and sense of being blessed this year, particularly in relation to the parade and the accompanying celebrations, highlighting the focus, energy, and passion that everyone contributed to the event.
- Presentation of the inaugural HRCVO Patriot Award to Dave and Jennie Huffman, Mission: POW/MIA for outstanding service, inspirational leadership, passionate devotion, tireless work ethics, zealous dedication, intrepid resourcefulness and sincere desire, while supporting the 2025 Veterans Day parade, Memorial Service and Luncheon.

Review and Acceptance of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:

October 27th, 2025, meeting minutes were posted to the website for review. Motion: Ron ODonnell, 2nd: Alice Cooper. The minutes were unanimously approved as posted without any changes.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Maliniak read the treasurer's report and provided the following information:

- Final update on the luncheon tickets sales and expenses.
- New DoubleTree guidance for the 2026 luncheon.
- Possible 2026 luncheon tickets price increase.
- Presentation of the 2026 budget.
- Motion to accept the 2026 budget: Kevin Bowser, 2nd Alice Cooper. The budget was accepted.
- The financial report was submitted and posted to the website prior to the meeting. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved as read.
- Dan thanked Mike for a brilliant job in managing the funds and taking care of the budget.
- It was noted that the certificate of deposit will mature next week. It was recommended to renew the certificate for an additional six months at an interest rate of 3.35%.
- Mike requested the assignment of an audit team. Dan will distribute the official notification to the audit team accordingly.

POA&M Review:

- Review was not conducted.

Old/Unfinished Business:

The Vice President position is vacant.

New Business:

- Bob Randall reported that he provided Kevin Bowser with a flash drive containing images and videos of the parade, footage of speeches from the reviewing stand, and a recording of Dan's speech at the luncheon. Additionally, the drive included 1,150 photographs documenting the Veterans Week events to post to the HRCVO website.
 - Kevin mentioned that you should check the website in a few days.
- Election of HRCVO Officers for 2026 – 2028.
 - Nomination Committee member Mike Bukowski presented the slate of nominations for the following positions: President—Dan Doyle; Secretary—Roger Durity; Treasurer—Mike Miliniak; Chaplain—Alice Cooper. There were no nominations submitted for Vice President.
 - A motion was made to direct the secretary to cast one unanimous ballot for the slate presented: Motion Mike Bukowski, 2nd Bob Randall
 - There were no nominations submitted for Vice President.: No nominations received from the floor.
 - President Dan Doyle instructed Secretary Roger Durity to cast a single unanimous ballot for the stated positions.
 - Secretary cast single unanimous ballot for the stated positions. 2nd by Mike Bukowski. Unanimously approved

Organization Reports

- Dan Doyle announced that American Legion Post 37 will host a Thanksgiving dinner open to everyone on Thursday, November 27th from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Knights of Columbus hall at 5201 Kennebeck Ave, Norfolk.
- Rich Segarra, founder of Operation Vets with Nets, shared information about the organization. Operation Vets with Nets is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded approximately four years ago on Lake Gaston, now operating in 25 states. The organization's primary mission is to save lives and support veterans through recreational and therapeutic activities centered on fishing and outdoor experiences. Gold Star families were introduced to these activities last year, and as of 2026, they will be included in the organization's mission statement.
- Dan reported that Operation Vets with Nets applied for HRCVO membership.
 - Motion that we add Operation Vets with Nets to the membership of the HRCVO: Mike Burkowski; 2nd Bob Randall. Unanimously approved.
- Mona Gunn Gold Star Mothers of Hampton Roads reported that Sunday, December 7th at 11am, there will be a ceremony in Norfolk at the Wisconsin Square near the Lone Sailor, to honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's Gold Star Families and their Loved Ones at the dedication of the new Gold Star Families Memorial Monument.
- Dave Huffman, Mission: POW/MIA gave thanks for the opportunity to be the Co-Sponsor of the 2025 Veterans Day Parade and to bring the Moving Wall, the helicopters and all the things to Virginia Beach. He stated that it was a learning experience to work with everybody. Also, he gave thanks to Karen, Virgil, Dan and Roger, the team that worked on the communications aspect, Jeannie and the VSOs. He conveyed the feelings shared by both the Parade Marshal and Co-Marshal. He also mentioned:
 - The Snowball Express mention by Dan.
 - Honor to Remember Pearl Harbor Day December 7th.
 - The day after the parade, Mission: POW/MIA met with the Vietnamese government in Washington DC. They plan to return in December,

- organizing and traveling to Vietnam next year.
- Working to obtain a previously overlooked Bronze Star to honor Johnny Johnson for the day he secured those artifacts.
- Virgil Hart, Chairperson of Virginia Beach MCV, expressed gratitude to all contributors and acknowledged the VSO for their support with the Moving Wall project.
- Johnny Johnson made a donation to HRCVO.

Good of the Order:

- Dan announced that there will be no meetings scheduled for the month of December.
- Gold Star Mothers are the scheduled Co-Sponsor for the 2026 Veterans Day Parade.

The next meeting will be held on January 26, 2026, at 7 PM

Benediction and Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm

HRCVO
Financial Report
November 2025

Beginning Balance (11/1/2025)

Checking	\$ 4,471.86
Savings	\$ 3,033.03
CD	\$ 10,585.22
Total	\$ 18,090.11

Income

James Osyf (2 Luncheon Tickets)	\$ 72.00
James Osyf (Donation)	\$ 8.00
Michael Feggans (2 Luncheon Tickets)	\$ 60.00
Venetta Charles (2 Luncheon Tickets)	\$ 60.00
Woodmenlife Virginia Chapter 46 (Donation)	\$ 600.00
Woodmenlife Virginia Chapter 46 (2 Luncheon Tickets)	\$ 60.00
Raffle	\$ 850.00
Johnny Johnson (Donation)	\$ 100.00
CD Interest	\$ 34.67
Savings Account Interest	\$ 0.10
Total Monthly Income	\$ 1,844.77

Expenses

Luncheon (DoubleTree)(1204)	\$ 1,902.60
Luncheon Decorations (Venetta Charles)(1205)	\$ 121.13
Flame of Hope Donation (Mission: POW/MIA)(1206)	\$ 850.00
JCVCC Donation (Mike Maliniak)(1207)	\$ 150.00
Total Monthly Expenses	\$ 3,023.73

Ending Balance (11/30/2025) \$ 16,911.15

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Agenda

November 24, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call of Officers and Directors
5. President's Report
 - George Lutz, CEO, Honor & Remember Flag
 - Casey Elliot, Admin Specialist, SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Program
 - Greatest Parade, Memorial Service, and Luncheon ever = Thanks
 - Veterans Week Activities = Outstanding Success = Thanks
 - Raffle Baskets = Huge Success = \$850 for Flame of Hope
 - Letters and Certificates of Appreciation = 30 or more in work
 - Commemorative Patches = \$5 with 16 still available for sale
 - Honor Flight Mission #10 = April 18, 2026 = Guardians and Veterans
 - Snowball Express = December 6 @ Norfolk Airport
 - Wreaths Across America = December 13 at various cemeteries
 - Presentation
6. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
7. Treasurer's Report:
 - Bills and Invoices Paid/Pending/Forthcoming
 - Financial Statement Review
 - 2026 Budget Discussion and Approval
8. POA&M Review
 - Open forum feedback
9. Old/Unfinished Business
10. New Business
 - Election of Officers for the 2026-2027 Term
11. Organizational Reports
12. Good of the Order
 - Next meeting date = January 26, 2026 at 7 PM
 - Discussion items from the floor
13. Benediction/Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain
 - Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
14. Adjourn



Guardians NEEDED!

Old Dominion Honor Flight
Mission 10: April 18, 2026

Interested in volunteering?

Guardians are individuals who accompany a Veteran on their trip to Washington, D.C. for the day. Guardians can be family members or friends, except spouses.

If you are traveling with a veteran who meets the eligibility dates, use this application and be sure to reference the veteran you will be escorting.

Guardians are requested to donate \$150.00 to help in covering a portion of their participation in this celebratory trip

<https://olddominionhonorflight.org/apply-now/>



**OLD DOMINION HONOR FLIGHT
PRESENTS**



APRIL 18, 2026

**VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II,
KOREA, AND VIETNAM**

Old Dominion Honor Flight is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. Old Dominion Honor Flight of Virginia serves the Richmond area and Southeastern Virginia to include the Outer Banks and Northeast North Carolina.

We transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY VISIT:

[HTTPS://OLDDOMINIONHONORFLIGHT.ORG/APPLY-NOW/](https://olddominionhonorflight.org/apply-now/)

E-Mail: info@olddominionhonorflight.org